

**Murray Arts Advisory Board
Minutes for October 21, 2008**

Attendance: Mildred Horton, Jared Shaver, Mary Black, Sharon Whitney, Elaine Judd, Judy Baxendale, Galen Campbell, Paul Brewer, Kathleen Sorenson, Mary Ann Kirk (staff), Jenazi Moller (student visitor).

1. Minutes for September 16, 2008 were approved. Mary Ann noted we have 100% attendance today. New board member Sharon Whitney was introduced.
2. Mary Ann thanked Mildred for hosting a large group of students for Up With People. It was very successful with about 700-800 attending. The show was fabulous. About 80% of the performers were housed in Murray.
3. Staff Report
 - County Master Plan release has been delayed to work through a few key issues including a 2500 seat theater. The plan in its current form recommends building several “regional” centers to serve local arts organizations. One of these regional facilities would serve Murray, Holladay, South Salt Lake, and Taylorsville. The facility could be owned and operated by a city(s), county, or a combination. This plan could change and will not be formally released until November or later. Mary Ann suggested the board meet with the Mayor’s office to determine if they want to operate a facility on their own or collaborate with other communities and the county. Operating costs might work better if these costs are shared by several communities. Mary suggested this makes sense given the current economic situation. Galen was concerned that the plan will sit there and nothing will be done. Mary Ann said that the ZAP program included money for recreation facilities and the county followed through with their plan to put facilities throughout the valley. This plan is now designed to address arts facilities for local communities in a similar way.

Mary Ann would like to pull in the surrounding community arts councils to discuss a collaboration. Mildred suggested waiting until the study was released. Mary Ann also noted the foundation is working with a group of graduate students who are developing an operational plan. This will identify potential costs and revenue sources including earned income, grants, and government support to ensure sustainability. An endowment could also help with operating costs. Mary Ann noted that the Murray Arts Advisory Board has an endowment fund set up through the Utah Arts Council. It is listed under the name of the Murray Arts Advisory Board - not Murray City.

The operating plan could also help identify how many groups could function in this facility. Rehearsal space for theater is the most demanding and may need to be provided in local communities. Galen is concerned that the local arts groups will not be able to afford using the facility and how we would schedule it. Mary Ann said a shared facility would need coordination to accommodate each group’s needs but we already do that with our summer and winter series. Jared said that there are various sources of funding which extend beyond the public sector. Mary Ann suggested that Jared be involved in the

operational plan. He felt that a shared community facility could widen the number of people who may like to privately contribute to the facility.

- The city is involved in a master plan to renew Murray's historic downtown. This plan may include a performing arts center as a key component. Mary Ann noted that Lynn Pett has suggested this would likely be more intriguing to large donors.
 - Mary Ann is distributing the literary entries to judges. Mildred, Mary, Judy, Sharon, and Elaine agreed to help call the winners over the weekend. Mary Ann will e-mail a list to each. There are about 200 entries. We will choose about 60 winners.
 - A foundation retreat is scheduled for Saturday and board members were invited to participate in the discussion. The board can decide how much they would like to be involved.
 - Art show set up will be Saturday, November 1 from 1 to 3 pm. Jared, Galen, Paul, and Judy can help. Potential judges included Camille Goodwin, Steve McGinty, Bobbi Jelovchan, and Grant Clawson. Mary can help with the judging. An award reception is scheduled for November 19 at 7 pm. Mildred will help give out awards.
 - The Arts Power performance of Amber Brown is Not a Crayon is scheduled for November 14 at 10 am and 1 pm at Hillcrest Jr High. Two grade levels from each school will be attending. Board members are invited to attend.
4. Previous community art award winners were reviewed. Ideas included Kristen Elder (HJH-choral), Cory Tuckness (CHS, retired), John Sieback (CHS, tech), Joan Shuman (community ed facility coordinator), Paul Brewer (service award), Kathy Webster (RJH-instrumental), Marcia Yates (Horizon bell choir, musicals). Board members chose Kristen Elder, Cory Tuckness and John Sieback, and Paul Brewer. Galen will double check to see if Cory Tuckness was already recognized at Cottonwood. Kristen will be recognized at a choir concert, Cory and John at musical. Mildred and Mary Ann will discuss the venue to present Paul's award.
 5. Board members asked about the visual art project mini grant request from the school district special needs director. As approved last month, we will provide up to \$500 in materials for the mural. Wendy Bills will give Mary Ann the invoices for reimbursement. The mural will be created along the Jordan River Parkway underpass at 5300 South where handicapped students can access the project.
 6. Mary Ann noted that the city is trying to cut costs to deal with the current economic situation. They have postponed our amphitheater stage replacement and schematic design. Jared asked if we should review our budget for next year. Mary Ann will share the budget as this is being prepared. Mary Ann said she is reducing the budget already to address the lower ZAP grant - particularly in the advertising area. We have already made a commitment with the school district for the next four years for the music/art specialists.

We may want to review our past policy to pay for the school facilities for the local arts groups performances in our winter series.

The arts council is also doing two shows in August of 2009 which will help reduce the costs for one production. There may be some programs we can promote in the schools that use volunteers or doesn't require additional funding or find a grant to help pay for some of these.

7. Mary Ann reviewed a few community facilities that we could utilize including the Murray Theater and Desert Star dinner theater. These are small facilities that could be used for small music ensembles only. Jared noted these are like a black box theater. Galen wondered if the little theaters are used at the high school. Mary Ann said they are classrooms and are hard to access during the school year.
8. A list of goals and annual projects were reviewed. The goals are based on the city ordinance that created the arts advisory board. We have put a large emphasis on arts in education over the past several years. Mildred suggested we choose 1-2 goals where we would like to put a little more emphasis over the next year and develop an action plan. Then the board can decide how the board members can actually help. Board members may have some additional ideas or projects we would like to add or enhance. We will put this on our next agenda in November. It might include how we wish to encourage the arts facility.